

BOROUGH OF TENBY

ANNUAL REPORT

1957



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

Dr. P. M. BOWEN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

H. P. LAWRENCE, A.R.S.H., A.M.I.B.E.



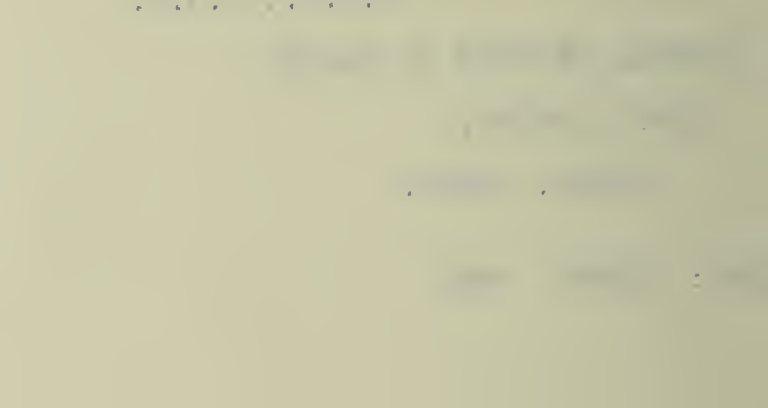
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B O R O U G H O F T E N B Y

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE
YEAR 1957.

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of the Council,
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present the Annual Report for the year 1957.

The estimated resident population remains the same but the birth rate has increased although it is still lower than the rate for the County and for England and Wales.

There has been an increase in the infant mortality and still birth rate, due in the main to prematurity. This problem is being investigated by the County Health Department and it is hoped that in the near future the present facilities for the care of these premature infants will be improved.

The death rate shows a slight decrease, the greatest number of deaths from any one cause being due to heart disease, particularly coronary thrombosis.

There was a low incidence of infectious disease during the year and the majority of the cases notified were due to measles. Four cases of tuberculosis were notified during 1957; three of these were due to tuberculosis of the lungs and in the fourth case the kidneys and other organs were involved.

The housing problem, although less serious, still persists in spite of the active steps taken by the Council in this matter. No doubt the most urgent problem here is the additional housing accommodation required for the elderly; however, the Council proposes to deal with this problem in the near future.

The section prepared by the Public Health Inspector shows how large a part these officers play in the maintenance of the conditions suitable for healthy living.

In conclusion I would like to thank the members of the Council and the staff for their continued courtesy and co-operation during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

Phyllis M. Bowen

PHYLLIS M. BOWEN. M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H.

District Medical Officer.

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

Resident Population (Registrar General's Estimate)1957.....
4,410.....

	<u>Borough of</u> <u>Tenby 1957</u>	<u>Borough of</u> <u>Tenby 1956</u>	<u>County of</u> <u>Pembroke</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>
Birth Rate (per 1,000 pop.)	15.2	12.0	17.05	16.1
Death Rate (per 1,000 pop.)	15.2	15.6	11.32	11.5
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	59.7	37.7	34.17	23.0

Live Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	37	29	66
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Total Births	38	29	67

Still Births

Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	2	1	3

The infant mortality rate shows an increase, four deaths in infants under one year of age occurring - all during the first week of life. Two of these deaths were due to prematurity, one to atelectasis and one to congenital malformation of the spine.

Causes of death

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
TOTAL (All causes)	32	35
Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	1
Malignant neoplasm of the stomach	1	2
Malignant neoplasm of the lungs, bronchus,	2	1
Other malignant neoplasms	-	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	7
Coronary disease, angina	7	5

<u>Causes of death (cont.)</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Hypertension with heart disease	2	1
Other heart disease	5	4
Other circulatory disease	3	5
Pneumonia	1	-
Bronchitis	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	5
Suicide	1	1

The general death rate shows a slight decrease and 61.2% (41) of the deaths occurred in persons aged over 70 years. Of these, 26.9% (18) occurred in persons aged over 80 years.

Of the eight deaths from malignant disease, three were due to cancer of the lung.

Two deaths from tuberculosis occurred, one in a man aged 79 years and the other in a woman aged 76 years. It is very important to realise that tuberculosis in the elderly frequently simulates bronchitis and so grandparents can be a possible source of infection, particularly to young children.

PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS

B.C.G. Vaccination.

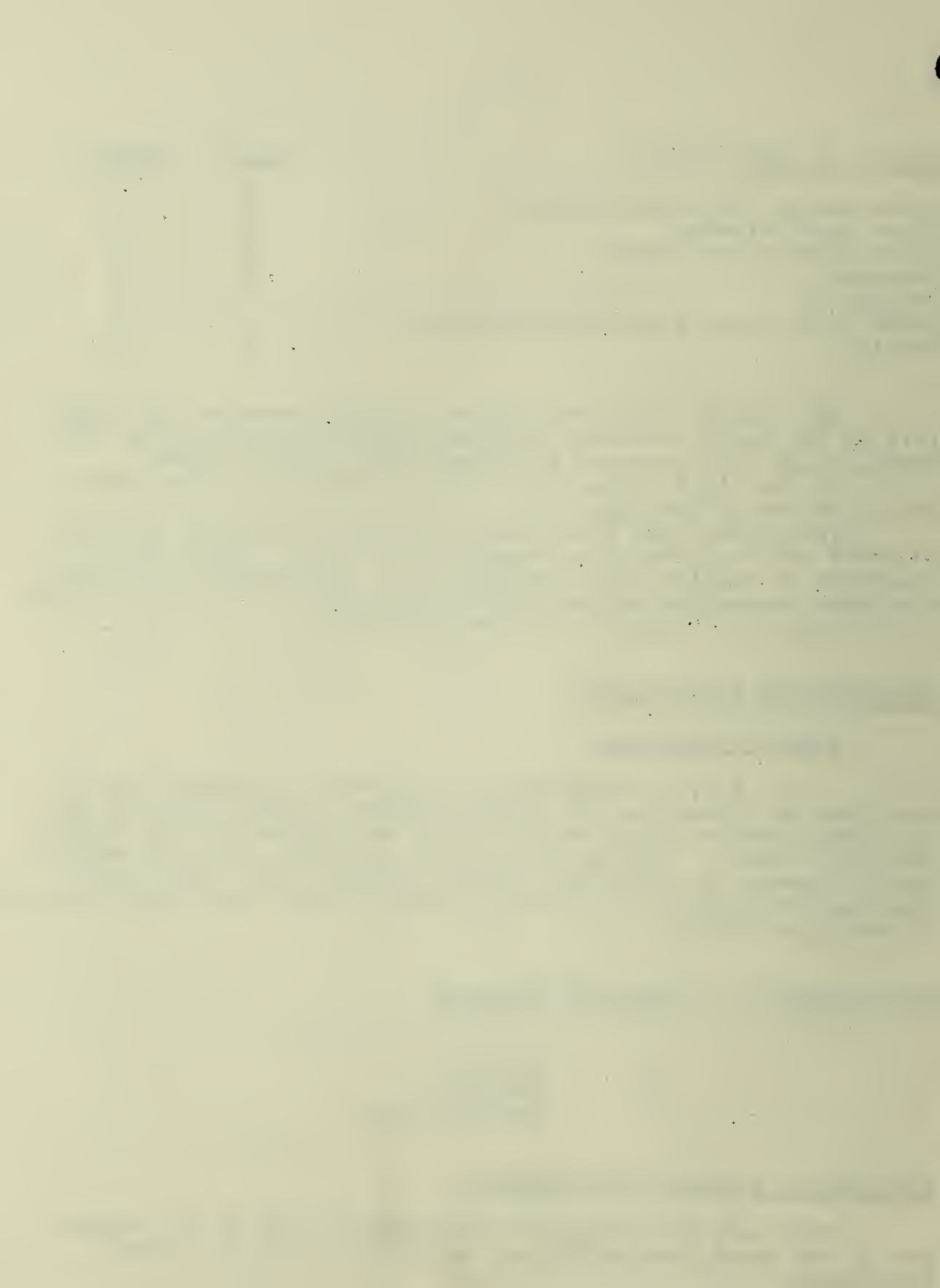
B.C.G. vaccination of contacts and school leavers continues to be carried out in the Borough. Clinic sessions at the Warren Street Clinic are held for the purpose and the schools are also visited. During 1957, twelve contacts and thirty-eight school leavers (i.e. thirteen year old pupils) were vaccinated. The Chest Physician, Dr. Llewellyn Davies, also vaccinates contacts at the Chest Clinic.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

6	Measles
1	Pneumonia
1	Scarlet Fever

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIO-MYELITIS

This work has continued at the Clinic and in the schools and it has meant much additional work for the County Health Department.



NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT.1946.

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Vaccination Free vaccination against smallpox is offered to all babies and to any other persons for whom it may be advisable. This is carried out at the Infant Welfare Clinic and by the local practitioners, who are paid by the County Council for notifications of either successful vaccination or failure after the second attempt. Records were received during the year of 38 primary vaccinations and 9 secondary vaccinations.

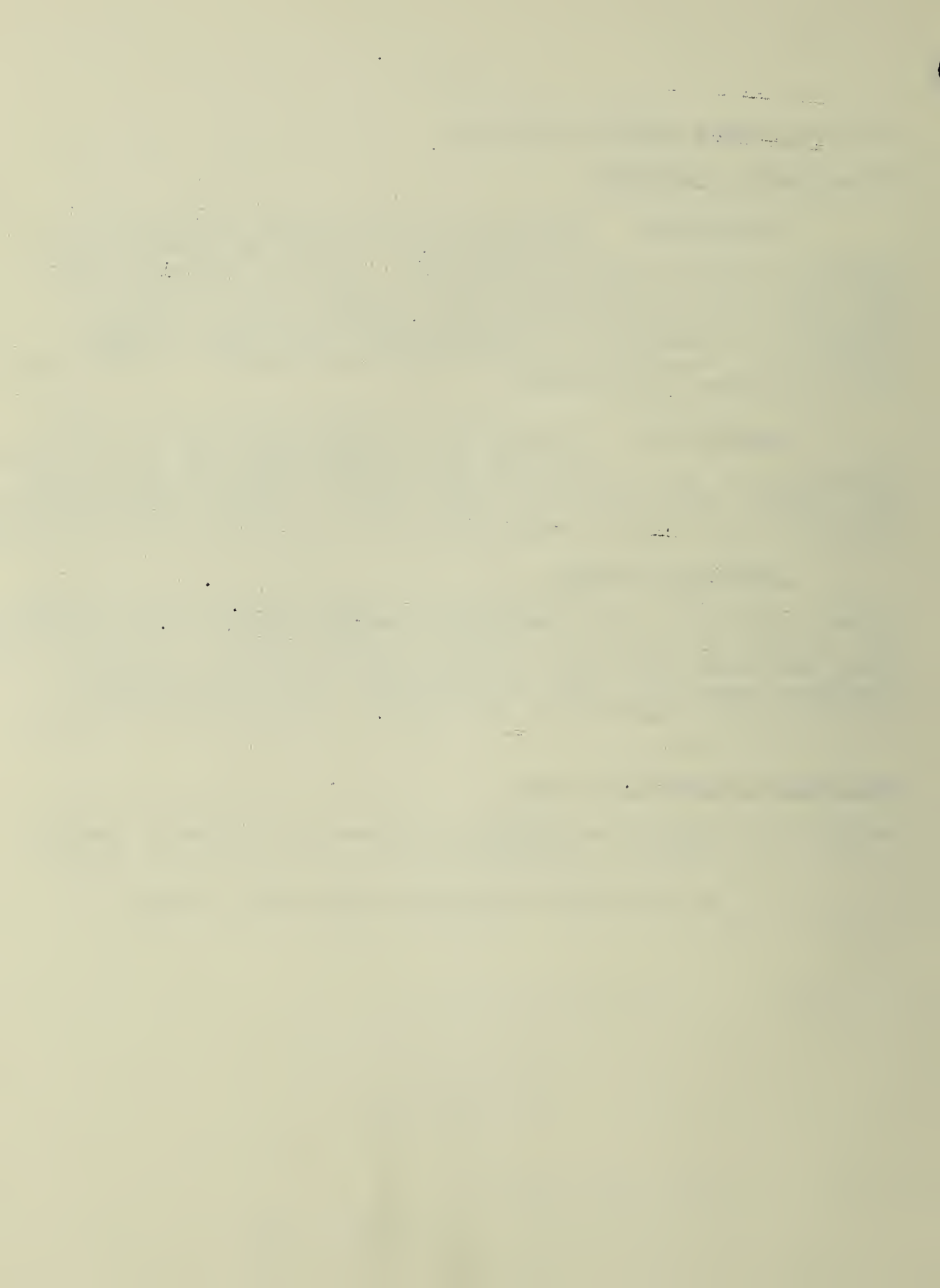
Immunisation Immunisation against diphtheria is also carried out at the Clinic and by the local practitioners, who are paid by the County Council on receipt by your Medical Officer of the record cards. Records were received during the year of 35 immunisations and 118 reinforcing injections.

Ambulance Service This is the responsibility of the County Council, which has seven ambulances in the County and an arrangement for the provision of cars for "sitting cases". In 1957, the Tenby ambulance dealt with 1,800 patients, 473 of whom were stretcher cases and 1,327 sitting cases. The total number of miles travelled was 28,482, an average of 15.82 miles per case.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT.1948.

Section 47:- Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action was necessary under this section.



REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE
YEAR 1957.

Total No. of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts).	-	513
No. of dwelling houses inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations 1925-1932 (included in previous heading).	-	6
No. of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	-	35
No. of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	-	6
No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority.	-	6

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING YEAR

It was not found necessary to take formal action in respect of the execution of repairs under the Housing or Public Health Acts during the year.

Housing Act 1957. Section 16.

No. of undertakings accepted not to use premises for human habitation.	-	1
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Housing Act 1957. Section 42.

By resolution dated 25th. June 1957, the Council decided to proceed with the Clearance Area at St. Domingo Place by making a Compulsory Purchase Order. Objections had been received and the Ministry will hold a Public Enquiry in February 1958.

Rent Act 1957.

This Act came into force on 6th. July 1957. The main provisions which affect the department are those concerning the decontrol of rented properties and those in respect of

the repair of defects which ought reasonably to be remedied, having due regard to the age, character and locality of the dwelling houses concerned.

The Act amends previous legislation regarding the issue of Certificates of Disrepair. Since the Act came into operation in July only one application has been received for a Certificate of Disrepair and this was granted.

The Act makes an important change in the law relating to landlord and tenant. It abolishes one week's notice to quit and substitutes a minimum of four weeks. This applies to both furnished and unfurnished dwellings and to all houses, whether in private ownership or belonging to Local Authorities or other public bodies. It applies whether the notice is served by the landlord or by the tenant.

New Houses.

The Council's Knowling Mead Housing Estate was completed during the year, providing two four bedroom houses, sixty-eight three bedroom houses, nine two bedroom houses, twenty-four two bedroom flats and four single bedroom bungalows. A combined bungalow and shop was also completed on this estate.

Thirteen dwellings built by private enterprise were completed during the year, the principal sites being North Cliff Estate and Glen View Crescent, Narberth Road.

Re-Housing.

Forty-six families were re-housed by the corporation during 1957. This number includes two families re-housed from the remaining properties held under the Requisitioned Houses and Housing (Amendment) Act, 1955.

At the end of the year the Council were negotiating for the purchase of several plots of land at the rear of South Parade. The total area of land available is approximately 1.5 acres and will be used for the erection of Old People's Bungalows.

Houses provided under the Housing Acts.

The total number of houses erected under the Housing Acts by the Council is 329.

These may be sub-divided as follows:-

4 Bedrooms	-	2	
3 Bedrooms	-	240	
2 Bedrooms	-	59	(including 50 pre-fabricated
2 Bedroom Flats	-	24	Houses)
1 Bedroom Bungalows	-	4	

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

A new 15" surface water sewer was constructed in the Narberth Road area. This provides surface water drainage facilities for houses now being erected in Glen View Crescent and on the east side of Narberth Road, and for future developments in this area.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

A Bedford 12 cubic yard covered vehicle is used daily for refuse collection. The personnel of the department consists of one driver, two loaders and one tip attendant.

It was found necessary to draw the attention of many occupiers of business and private premises to the Council's resolution regarding the provision of suitable covered refuse receptacles. Many premises are still without proper refuse bins and it is hoped that a marked improvement will take place in the coming year as the result of informal approach, but the Council will be asked to take action in default against persons who persist in their refusal to provide suitable refuse receptacles.

The Council's refuse disposal site on Clickett's Lane was used continuously throughout the year. A considerable quantity of free spoil for covering was obtained from various sources, and in addition, soil was purchased in order that the refuse could be adequately covered. Complaints were received from residents of Knowling Mead regarding the efficient management of the site, and a sub-committee was formed to investigate alleged nuisances from flies and smells. The Committee were satisfied that all reasonable precautions were taken to prevent nuisances arising.

RODENT CONTROL.

One trained Rodent Operator is employed full time on this work under the general supervision of your Public Health Inspector.

Regular inspections and surveys are carried out, and all complaints dealt with promptly. Treatments carried out on private property are free but on business premises a charge is made based on time and materials used.

The town's sewers received two treatments during the year in accordance with the methods laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture.

The following table shows the number of inspections and

treatments carried out during the period under review:-

No. of properties inspected	-	627
No. of treatments carried out	-	(a) Dwelling Houses 139
		(b) Business Premises 27
		(c) L.A. Properties 11

CAMPING SITES.

Five licences were issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, in respect of caravan sites within the Borough, and each site was inspected regularly during the season.

The names of the sites and the number of caravans permitted are as follows:-

(1)	Kiln Park Trailer Caravan Co.	250 resident caravans
		50 touring vans
		tents for 200 persons
(2)	Saltern Caravan Site	50 caravans
(3)	Zion Gardens, St. John's Hill,	28 caravans
(4)	Meadow Farm, North Cliff	12 caravans
(5)	Windmills, Narberth Road	6 caravans

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply

No. of retailers - 6 (including one seasonal)

Milk Samples

Satisfactory - 50
Unsatisfactory - 1

All samples taken were for "keeping quality" and efficiency of pasteurisation.

From April 1st. 1957, Tenby was included in the Specified Areas where only specially designated milk may be sold. All milk retailed in the Borough is either bottled Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested.

All schools are provided with bottled Pasteurised milk.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949.

No. of Dealers Licences issued during 1957:-

Tuberculin Tested Milk - 3

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk)
Regulations 1949.

No. of Dealers Licences issued during 1957:-

{a} Pasteurised Milk	-	3
{b} Sterilised Milk	-	nil

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955. SECTION 16.

No. of premises registered to sell ice-cream	-	18
No. of manufacturers	-	2

RETAIL FOOD PREMISES

Grocers	-	16
Butchers	-	5
Bakers	-	6
Greengrocers	-	9
Fish Friers	-	2
Cafes	-	24

Regular inspections were carried out during the year.

The following table gives the quantity of foodstuffs examined during the year and found unfit for human consumption.

Description of Food

Weight

	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qtrs.</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>	<u>Ozs.</u>
Fresh Meat	1	0	14	4
Tinned Meat	2	2	10	10
Tinned Fish	-	-	4	0
Tinned Fruit	4	3	18	2
Tinned Vegetables	-	2	19	9
Tinned Milk	-	1	2	5
Miscellaneous tinned food	-	2	6	9
	10	0	19	7

All unfit food is buried at the Corporation's refuse tip.

FOOD PREPARING PREMISES.

The survey of these premises was continued during the year. During this period two unsatisfactory bakehouses and one cafe were closed and will not be so used again.

Following the introduction of the new food regulations, some marked improvements are taking place in the various types

of food preparing premises. With improved standards of living the public generally demands a high standard of hygiene in the preparation, serving and handling of food which they are surely entitled to, especially perhaps in a seaside resort. The progress that is being made in Tenby in all branches of the catering trade is gratifying and shows an earnest desire on the part of most individuals concerned to improve conditions generally.

It has not been found necessary to resort to legal action to achieve this measure of improvement and I believe that some degree of discretion is highly desirable, and when an atmosphere of goodwill and mutual co-operation exists, with a general desire to raise standards, reasonable agreement is usually possible which is acceptable to both parties.

A number of premises have been adapted for catering purposes and their size and general lay-out make ideal conditions difficult to achieve. Even so, food traders must realise that whatever the difficulties involved, the alternative to food hygiene is all too often food poisoning.

SAMPLING - FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The Pembrokeshire County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority and the undernoted are the particulars of the sampling carried out during the year 1957.

34 samples of Milk.

2 samples of Ice-cream and Tcg.

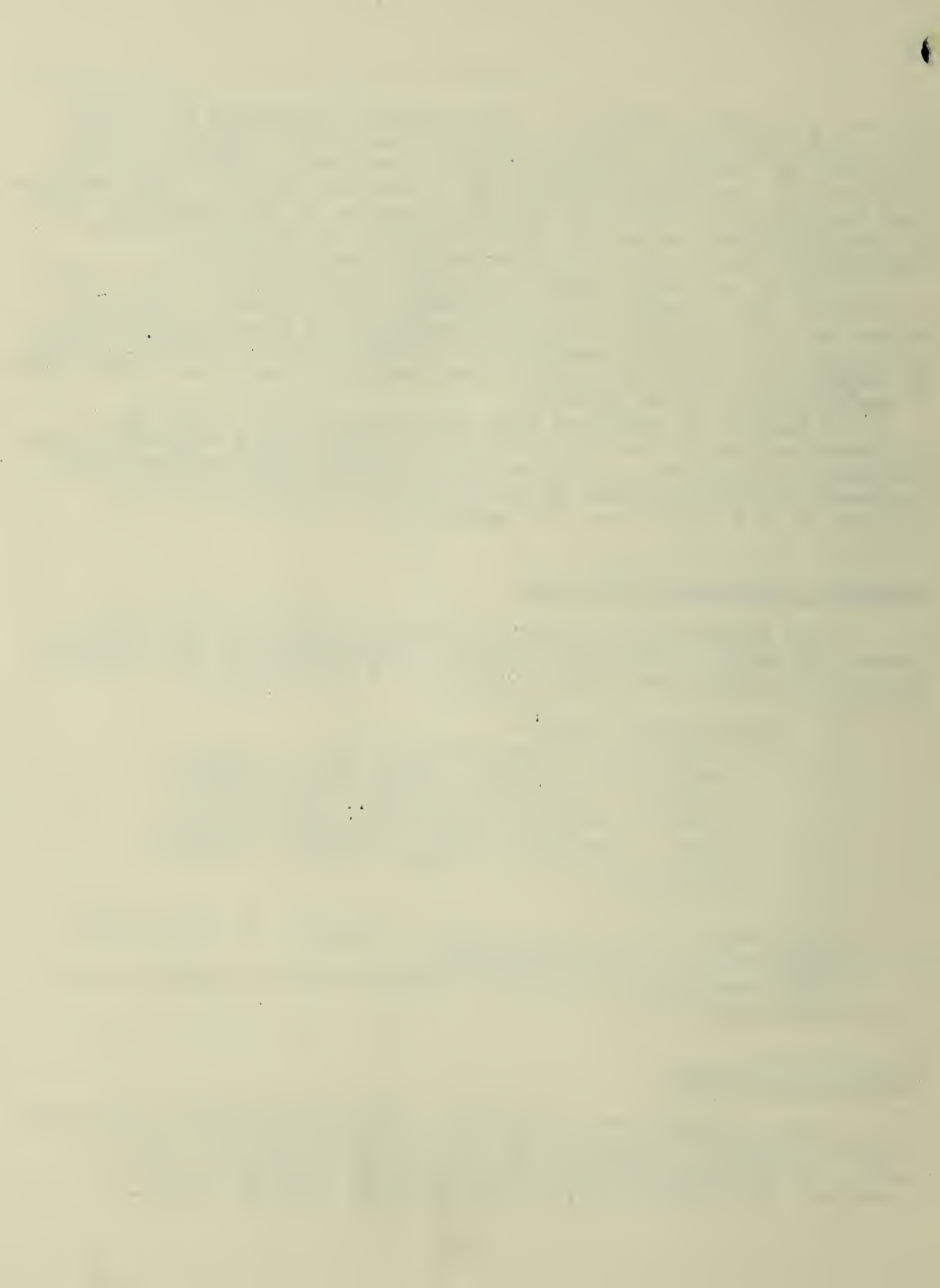
1 sample of:- Butter, Lard, Rice, Cakeoma, Spongie, Drinking Chocolate, Salad Cream, Minced Chicken, Crab Paste, Corn Flakes, Flour, Macaroni, Cocoa, Ovaltine, Horlicks, Sweets, Cornflour, Sago, Tapioca, Coconut and Jelly.

One sample of Milk was found to contain 7% Added Water. The trader concerned was prosecuted.

The remaining samples were reported to be genuine and in a wholesome condition.

FACTORIES ACT. 1937.

All factories were inspected during the year for adequate means of escape in case of fire under Section 34 of the above Act. All factories in the Borough are now supplied with the necessary Certificates and plans showing means of escape.



FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Notices</u>	<u>Prose- cutions</u>
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3, 4 & 6 are enforced by Local Authorities.	7	5	nil	nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	43	69	nil	nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities, (excluding outworkers' premises).	2	4	nil	nil
TOTAL	52	79	nil	nil

H.P.LAWRENCE

Public Health Inspector and
Housing Officer.

